

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 11689 190627Z

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3469

INFO AMEMASSY BANGKOK

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY JAKURTA

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MANILA

USLO PEKING

CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 11689

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR UR ID

SUBJ: IZVESTIYA PROPOSES BROADENED SOVIET-INDONESIAN TIES

1. SUMMARY IZVESTIYA ON AUGUST 16 PUBLISHED SIGNED COMMENTARY EXPRESSING SOVIET READINESS TO DEVELOP "COMPREHENSIVE TIES" WITH INDONESIA ON THE BASIS OF NON-INTERFERENCE, EQUALITY, AND MUTUAL BENEFIT. AUTHOR OF THE COMMENTARY, YU. LUGOVSKOY, IS UNKNOWN TO US, BUT TENOR OF ARTICLE IS SUCH THAT IT SOUNDS AUTHORITATIVE. END SUMMARY.

2. IN EXPLAINING ALTRUSTIC MOTIVES FOR SOVIET READINESS TO BROADEN OFFICAL CONTACT, LUBOVSKOY SKIPS LIGHTLY OVER ANTI-COMMUNIST OUTBURSTS IN INDONESIA DURING 1960'S, REFERRING
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 11689 190627Z

OBLIQUELY TO HARMFUL EFFECT "WELL-KNOWN INTERNAL EVENTS" DURING

SECOND OF 1960'S HAD ON "SOCIAL PROGRESS" IN THE COUNTRY. HE BUILDS CASE THAT INCREASING PRESENCE OF FOREIGN CAPITAL IN COUNTRY WHICH HAS RESULTED FROM OIL BOOM IS OVERBALANCING ECONOMY, MAKING INDONESIA SUSCEPTIBLE TO WESTERN PRESSURE ON ITS CONDUCT OF FOREIGN POLICY. HE CONTINUES: "MANY IN INDONESIA, TAKING THIS INTO ACCOUNT, ARE NOW TENDING TOWARD THAT CONVICTION THAT THE ONE-SIDED DIRECTION OF EXTERNAL ECONOMIC AND TRADE TIES SHOULD BE OVERCOME THROUGH DIVERSIFICATION." LUGOVSKOY QUOTES DJAKARTA NEWSPAPER MERDKEA TO MAKE HIS OWN POINT THAT THIS "DIVERSIFICATION" COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED THROUGH INCREASED TIES WITH THE "SOCIALIST" STATES. AN ADDITIONAL ADVANTAGE FROM SUCH TIES, HE CONTENDS, WOULD BE THE STRENGTHENING OF THE STATE SECTOR OF THE ECONOMY, MUCH AS HAS HAPPENED IN INDIA. EXCHANGE OF PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION WHICH HAS TAKEN PLACE IN RECENT PAST, ALONG WITH OBVIOUS COMMONLY-HELD VIEWS ON FOREIGN POLICY, HE ARGUES, MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE EXPANSION OF TIES THE SOVIET UNION IS READY TO UNDERTAKE CAN BE A SUCCESSFUL VENTURE.

3. (PRAVDA ON AUGUST 17 REPORTS HAPPY COINCIDENCE THAT PRESIDENT SUHARTO DELIVERED SPEECH IN JAKARTA ON PREVIOUS DAY WHICH -- AT LEAST AS RECONSTRUCTED BY PRAVDA--MAKES POINT THAT INDONESIA PLANS TO "STRUGGLE AGAINST THE DOMINANCE OF FOREIGN CAPITAL" IN INDONESIA AND IS READY TO BROADEN CONTACT "ON THE BASIS OF EQUALITY AND MUTUAL BENEFIT" WITH ALL NATIONS, INCLUDING THE "SOCIALIST" STATES.)

4. COMMENT : THIS SOVIET TENDER IS SOMEWHAT CAUTIOUSLY PHRASED, AND SEEMS A BIT HEAVY ON ASSURANCES TO INDONESIA THAT BROADENED CONTACT WOULD BE ON STRICT BASIS OF NON-INTERFERENCE.

WE SEE NOTHING IN THE ARTICLE THAT BETRAYS THE SOVIET ATTITUDE ON DEBTS OR OTHER SCARS OF THE PAST RELATIONSHIP.
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